

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAHORE 00592 221209 Z

53

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CU-04 PM-07 L-03 CIAE-00 DODE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-12 PRS-01 SCS-03

SCA-01 AID-20 OPR-02 RSR-01 /106 W
----- 129184

R 221011 Z MAY 73

FM AMCONSUL LAHORE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9585

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAHORE 0592

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINS, PK

SUBJECT: STUDENTS ATTACK LAHORE BRANCH OF BRITISH COUNCIL

1. ON MAY 21, SOME 50 PUNJAB UNIVERSITY STUDENTS PROCEEDED INDIVIDUALLY OR IN SMALL GROUPS TO BRITISH COUNCIL LIBRARY, WHICH THEY PEACEFULLY ENTERED. AFTER GATHERING INSIDE, STUDENTS TORE UP NUMBER OF BOOKS, BROKE WINDOW PANES AND DAMAGED SOME FURNITURE AND BOOK SHELVES. THEY ALSO STOLE NUMBER OF BOOKS. STUDENTS DEPARTED BEFORE POLICE ARRIVED.

2. PRESS REPORTED, AND BRITISH CONSULATE GENERAL CONFIRMS, THAT STUDENTS SAID THEY PROTESTING AGAINST UNCOMPLIMENTARY REFERENCES TO ISLAM AND PICTURES OF THE PROPHET MOHAMMAD WHICH ALLEGEDLY APPEAR IN " THE BOOK OF KNOWLEDGE", A CHILDREN'S ENCYCLOPEDIA PUBLISHED IN LONDON BY HALL AND THOMSON. STUDENTS HAD NOT SEEN ENCYCLOPEDIA BUT HAD LEARNED OF IT FROM MAY 21 PRESS REPORTS INDICATING KASHMIR STATE GOVERNMENT HAD BANNED IT AND REQUESTED GOI TO BAN IT THROUGHOUT INDIA.

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3. COMMENT: UK CONGEN INFORMS US STUDENTS DID LITTLE
DAMAGE BUT DID STEAL FAIRLY LARGE NUMBER OF BOOKS.
LIBRARY NOW CLOSED FOR MINOR REPAIRS AND INVENTORY.
THIS APPEARS TO BE ONE OF THE " BOYS WILL BE BOYS" STUNTS
STUDENTS OCCASIONALLY ENJOY.
DECONTROL DEC 31, 1975
KING

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NMAFVVZCZ

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Executive Order: n/a
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Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
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30 JUN 2005

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KARACHI
LONDON
NEA
SECSTATE WASHDC
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Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

